



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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## **State Board of Education Statement Online Learning**

In 2006, Michigan became the first state to require all students have an online course or learning experience as part of the state's graduation requirements. The State Board of Education continues to support quality digital and online educational opportunities for Michigan's students in order to reach educational goals.

In the last two years, Michigan has expanded the role of online education and may continue to do so this year. The State Board of Education would like to re-affirm its commitment to providing online education opportunities focused on best practices.

Strong online education programs include:

- A "blended" approach, combining traditional methods of instruction by highly qualified teachers, supplemented with access to technology.
- Opportunities for individual instruction and group collaboration.
- Utilization of multiple channels of communication, including online, telephone, social media, instant messaging, etc.
- A student to teacher ratio that allows for relationship-building.

The State Board of Education respectfully requests that legislation expanding online education be informed by best practices and allow for innovation, while meeting individual needs with clear expectation of delivering college and career ready skills and standards.

Approved March 12, 2013

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